



Wallingford, Connecticut Inflow and Infiltration Removal Program - Fact Sheet

Inflow and Infiltration

- Inflow is rain water that enters into the sanitary sewer through public (e.g., catch basins) and private connections (e.g. sump pumps, roof drains and leaders) to the sanitary sewer system.
- Infiltration is groundwater or rain water that enters into the sanitary sewer through sewer lateral connections that have leaking joints or from damaged pipe.
- With your help, the Sewer Division will identify private inflow and infiltration sources through an inflow questionnaire and property inspections. The Sewer Division has been removing and repairing public sources of inflow through a yearly program for more than ten (10) years.
- Private inflow and infiltration sources are in violation of Town Ordinance No. 577, *Ordinance Concerning Sources of Inflow and Infiltration into the Sanitary Sewer System*.

Why is inflow and infiltration a concern?

- Sanitary sewers are designed to handle typical sanitary flow and a small amount of groundwater infiltration.
- Excess inflow and infiltration can cause Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) that violate the Clean Water Act. SSOs occur when the sanitary sewer capacity is exceeded and sewage comes out of manholes or results in sewer backups into homes and businesses. SSOs are a public health concern
- Inflow and infiltration results in clean rain water and groundwater being treated along with wastewater, contributing to increased operating costs such as electricity and chemical expenses.

Wallingford's approach to inflow and infiltration removal

- Property owners with exterior roof downspout connections, sump pumps, internal roof drains or a leaking sewer lateral identified as a result of property inspections or other means may be eligible for the financial reimbursement program.

Inflow and Infiltration Removal Financial Reimbursement Program

- The Sewer Division has developed an Inflow and Infiltration Removal Financial Reimbursement Program to assist property owners with the cost of private inflow and infiltration removal from the sanitary sewer.
- If eligible, property owners may perform the work themselves or obtain at least two quotes from qualified contractors. Information regarding financial assistance for inflow and infiltration removal is described in the *Sewer Division Policy Regarding Reimbursement of Infiltration and Inflow Removal Costs* located on the Water and Sewer Divisions website at www.wallingford.ct.us.

What future steps will be taken?

- The Sewer Division will contact property owners through mailings such as an inflow questionnaire, public meetings or by letter for events identified in the ordinance such as a property transfer. The Sewer Division will perform property inspections to determine if inflow and infiltration sources are connected to the public sanitary sewer.
- The Sewer Division monitors sanitary sewer flows for the presence of inflow and infiltration using flow metering equipment installed in the public sanitary sewer collection system. If it is found that significant wet weather flow is still being conveyed by the sewer system, additional and more costly inflow and infiltration identification programs to locate inflow sources may be implemented.